

Appl. No. 10/681,035
Amdt. dated December 1, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 8, 2005

REMARKS

In the Office Action of November 8, 2005, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 for one of three groups of claims:

(I) claims 1-26 and 35-68 drawn to a method and apparatus for controlling fluid flow in an apheresis system, comprising a first level alarm, pausing fluid flow, and a second-level alarm condition, classified in class 210, subclass 739;

(II) claim 27, drawn to a method and apparatus for controlling fluid flow in an apheresis system, comprising different procedures depending on whether the separation is complete classified in class 210, subclass 739;

(III) claims 28-34, drawn to a method and apparatus for controlling fluid flow in an apheresis system with a single alarm condition, classified in class 210, subclass 739.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.143, Applicants hereby elect the invention described as Group I (claims 1-26 and 35-68).

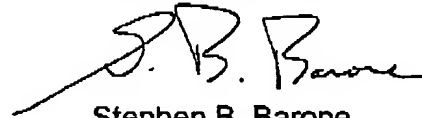
The Office Action further characterizes the claims as directed to two allegedly patentably distinct species: (i) Species A: claims 35-61, drawn to a control system with a processor with first-level and second-level alarm trigger algorithms; and (ii) Species B: claims 67-68, drawn to a control system with a processor claimed to have only one alarm trigger algorithm. Election of a single disclosed Species is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and Species A is characterized as generic.

Applicants hereby elect Species A which is currently held to be generic. Claims 35-61 correspond to elected Species A.

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It is believed that the present submission does not require the payment of any fees. If this is incorrect however, please charge any fees required, including any extensions of time required, to Deposit Account No. 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney Docket No. 109-03
December 1, 2005

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